

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KINGST 02719 271844Z

ACTION A-01

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 CPR-01 NSC-05 SS-15 SSO-00

SY-05 USSS-00 USIE-00 CCO-00 /034 W

-----271850Z 088777 /47

O 271705Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASY KINGSTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5511

WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L KINGSTON 2719

DEPARTMENT FOR A AND S/CPR MRS. DOBELLE; WHITE HOUSE FOR
MS. MARY HOYT AND MS. MACBEAN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (CARTER, ROSALYNN)

SUBJECT: ISSUING THE SKIRT -- A "SURPRISE" FOR MRS. CARTER

1. WE HAVE LEARNED THAT MRS. GLASSPOLE, WIFE OF THE GOVERNOR GENERAL, INTENDS TO PRESENT MRS. CARTER WITH AN EMBROIDERED SKIRT AS A GIFT, OSTENSIBLY FROM A LOCAL WOMEN'S GROUP. THE DRESS WILL ALLEGEDLY HAVE BEEN MADE BY A LOCAL SEAMSTRESS, MRS. ANNIE LOPEZ. WHEN FIRST PROPOSED, WE SOUGHT TO POLITELY DISCOURAGE THE WHOLE IDEA. HOWEVER, PROTOCOL CHIEF BOOTHE URGED US STRONGLY TO ACCEPT THIS GIFT CLAIMING THAT THE SEAMSTRESS WOULD BE HEART-BROKEN AND IN TEARS WERE MRS. GLASSPOLE UNABLE TO PRESENT THE GIFT. BOTHE'S PERSISTENCE IN ADVANCING THIS UNORTHODOX CAUSE WAS SURPRISING.

2. HOWEVER, WE HAVE SUBSEQUENTLY LEARNED FROM A DIFFERENT OFFICIAL GOJ SOURCE IN A "VERY OFF THE RECORD" BACKGROUNDER THAT MRS. GLASSPOLE WAS, BEFORE HER MARRIAGE, A LEADING HAUTE COUTURE DESIGNER AND THAT IT IS SHE, RATHER THAN MRS. LOPEZ, WHO HAS DESIGNED AND EMBROIDERED THE GIFT SKIRT. OUR SOURCE ALSO REVEALS THAT
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MRS. GLASSPOLE HAS DESIGNED MANY OF THE GOWNS WORN BY THE WIFES OF THE MEMBERS OF THE JAMAICAN CABINET. SHE INSISTS ON MAINTAINING THE SECRECY OF HER AVOCATION, HOWEVER, AND WOULD BE MORTIFIED TO HAVE ANYONE OUTSIDE A CLOSE CIRCLE KNOW THAT SHE, AND NOT MRS. LOPEZ, HAD DESIGNED AND EMBROIDERED THE SKIRT.

3. WE FIND THE ENTIRE STORY SUFFICIENTLY IMPLAUSIBLE TO BE TRUE AND THEREFORE WE RECOMMEND MRS. CARTER ACCEPT THE GIFT FROM MRS. GLASSPOKE, WITH PERHAPS SOME SUITABLE REMARKS ON THE EXCELLENCE OF THE DESIGN AND THE QUALITY OF THE EMBROIDERY. MRS. GLASSPOKE WILL CLAIM THAT SHE IS SIMPLY CONVEYING THE GIFT FOR SOMEONE ELSE. ACCORDINGLY, PROTOCOL DIRECTOR BOOTHE SAYS A RECIPROCAL GIFT WOULD NOT BE APPROPRIATE. HE ALSO ASSURES THERE WOULD BE NO REPEAT NO EXPECTATION THAT MRS. CARTER WOULD WEAR THE SKIRT DURING HER STAY IN JAMAICA.

4. FINALLY, MRS. LOPEZ HAS CONTACTED THE EMBASSY TO DETERMINE MRS. CARTER'S SKIRT SIZE FOR "FINAL ALTERATIONS". PLEASE ADVISE ASAP.
DORRANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GIFTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 27-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
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Film Number: D770190-0572
Format: TEL
From: KINGSTON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770510/aaaaaipj.tel
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Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
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Review Release Date: n/a
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Secure: OPEN
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Subject: ISSUING THE SKIRT -- A "SURPRISE" FOR MRS. CARTER
TAGS: OVIP, US, JM, (CARTER, ROSALYNN)
To: STATE WHITE HOUSE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/d2ba5087-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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